

Kaundinyapur Yatra

Birthplace of Rukmini Ji and place of Rukmini Haran (kidnaping) pastime




Kaundinyapur is tiny village, 2 hours from Nagpur in Amravati, Maharashtra on the banks of river Wardha. This is birthplace of Rukmini Ji, the principal queen of Lord Krishna. This is also where famous Rukmini haran (kidnaping) pastime took place. Here there is famous Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple, the exact spot of Rukmini's palace.

Places to visit in Kaundinyapur:

1. Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple at Kaundinyapur - the exact spot of Rukmini's palace
2. ISKCON Kaundinyapur
3. Rare Keli Kadamba trees inside ISKCON temple premises

Rukmini Haran (kidnapping) pastime

Rukmini was daughter of King Bhismaka of Vidarbha. Just as Lord Krishna is the Supreme Lord, Rukmini is supreme goddess of fortune, *Maha-Laksmi*. Rukmini was reservoir of all transcendental qualities. Rukmini's father and her family unanimously decided her to marry Krishna, but her elder brother Rukmi, forcefully arranged her marriage with Sisupala, a determined enemy of Krishna. 



जेव्हा राजा वडीलांना म्हणतो. पिताश्री, रुक्मिणी आठी प्र म्हणून शिक्षणालाच विचार कबाल तर, मी कौटुंब्यांतून कायमचा निघून जाईन.

When Rukmini heard this, she became extremely morose. However, she decided that there was no use in being morose ☹️, some steps should be taken immediately. After deliberation, she decided to send a letter 📧 to Krishna in Dwarka. For this, she selected a trusted *brahmana* as her messenger. 1



पिताजी, मी लग्न कबेल, ते श्रीकृष्णाशीच. इतरांशी नव्हे. माझे मन, शुध्दी, विचार त्यांचे चवणी अमर्षित आहे. आम्ही रुक्मिणी म्हणते.

When *brahmana* arrived in Dwarka, Krishna welcomed him very respectfully. Later, Krishna asked him the purpose of coming. *Brahmana* then handed over Rukmini's letter.



Rukmini's letter:

"My dear Krishna, O infallible and most beautiful one, anyone who happens to hear about You, immediately absorbs in Your name, fame, qualities and thus all his material pangs subside. I have heard of Your transcendental qualities. I may be shameless in expressing myself directly, but You have captivated me and taken my heart. You may doubt my steadiness of character, since how could an unmarried young girl like me approach You without any shame? But my dear Mukunda, You are the supreme lion among human beings. My dear Lord, I dedicate my life and soul unto Your lotus feet. I have selected Your Lordship as my husband. I request You to accept me as Your wife. You are the supreme powerful. I request You to immediately take care of me. Please come here and catch hold of my hand so that I shall not be touched by Sisupala."

She suggested that Krishna come incognito to kidnap her and then fight with Sisupala. She addressed Him - 'Ajita' the 'unconquerable Lord'. [1]



Lord Krishna was very much pleased by her letter. He said, "I am very glad to hear that Rukmini is eager to marry Me, since I am also eager to get her hand. My mind is always absorbed in thoughts of her, and sometimes I cannot sleep at night because I am thinking of her. I understand that marriage of Rukmini with Sisupala has been arranged by Rukmi in a spirit of animosity toward Me; so I am determined to give a good lesson to them." Krishna immediately prepared to leave for Vidarbha.

Meanwhile, Rukmini was expecting Krishna to arrive, but when neither He nor *brahmana* came, she was full of anxiety and began to think how unfortunate she was. "There is only one night left for my marriage day, and still neither *brahmana* nor Krishna have returned. I cannot ascertain any reason for this. Perhaps, Krishna had found reason to become dissatisfied and had rejected her fair proposal." [1]



She felt that she was hoping against hope 🙄. Tears simply shed from her eyes, unobserved by others. When her tears became more forceful, she closed her eyes in helplessness. Meanwhile, Krishna's brother - Balarama, when He heard that Krishna has left alone, He also immediately started to Vidarbha with soldiers of Yadu dynasty.

Day on her marriage, as per there family practice, Rukmini visited Durga temple, which was on outskirts of the city. [1]



All the princes who came for marriage had assembled outside the temple to see Rukmini. As she was adjusting her ornaments, she happened to look upon princes and suddenly saw that Lord Krishna was present amongst them. Although Rukmini had never before seen Krishna, she was always thinking of Him; thus she had no difficulty recognizing Him. Krishna, unconcerned with the other princes, immediately took the opportunity to place Rukmini on His chariot. He then proceeded slowly, without fear, taking Rukmini away exactly as a lion takes a deer from the midst of jackals. Meanwhile, Balarama appeared on the scene with the soldiers of Yadu dynasty. [1]



Sisupala became very angry at Krishna for having kidnapped Rukmini. Terrible fighting began, as Balarama, heading Yadu dynasty's soldiers, checked everyone from going towards Krishna. Rukmini, seated by the side of Krishna, saw arrows raining onto the faces of Yadu soldiers. In a fearful attitude, she looked upon Krishna's face, expressing her gratefulness that He had taken such a great risk for her sake only. Her eyes moving, she appeared sorry, and Krishna, immediately understood her mind, said: "My dear Rukmini, don't worry. Soldiers of Yadu will kill all without delay." [1]



श्रीकृष्णाच्या बघाला शत्रू शिशुपाल झडपितो. दोघांत युद्ध होते. देवाश्रयी भक्ताच्या रक्षणार्थ, जलवाम त्या युद्धांत भाग घेतो व शिशुपालास पकडतो.

Rukmi, having seen his sister forcibly taken away by Krishna, got frustrated, and decided to teach Krishna a lesson personally. He fiercely chased after Krishna. In great stupidity, he soon stood before Krishna, telling Him repeatedly, "*Stop for a minute and fight with me!*" He condemned Krishna with abominable words. [1]



Lord Krishna, after hearing all these crazy words from Rukmi, immediately shot an arrow. Krishna cut all his weapon to pieces. Krishna took out His sharp sword and was about to kill Rukmi. Just then, Rukmini, fell down at Krishna's lotus feet and in a very grievous tone, trembling with great fear, began to plead Him to spare life of her brother. Lord Krishna became compassionate and agreed not to kill the foolish Rukmi. At the same time, He wanted to give him some light punishment, so He tied him up with a piece of cloth and snipped at his moustache, beard and hair, keeping some spots here and there. Then, Lord Krishna and Rukmini proceeded towards Dwarka. [1]



Lord Krishna and Rukmini got married at a place called Madhavpur Ghed, which is a small village, 2½ hrs from Sri Dwarka Dhama.

**Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple at Kaundinyapur -
the exact spot of Rukmini's palace**



Kaundinyapur is on the banks of river Wardha



Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple at Kaundinyapur



Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple



Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple



Sri Vitthala Rukmini



Their Lordships Sri Vitthala Rukmini



Sri Vitthala Rukmini



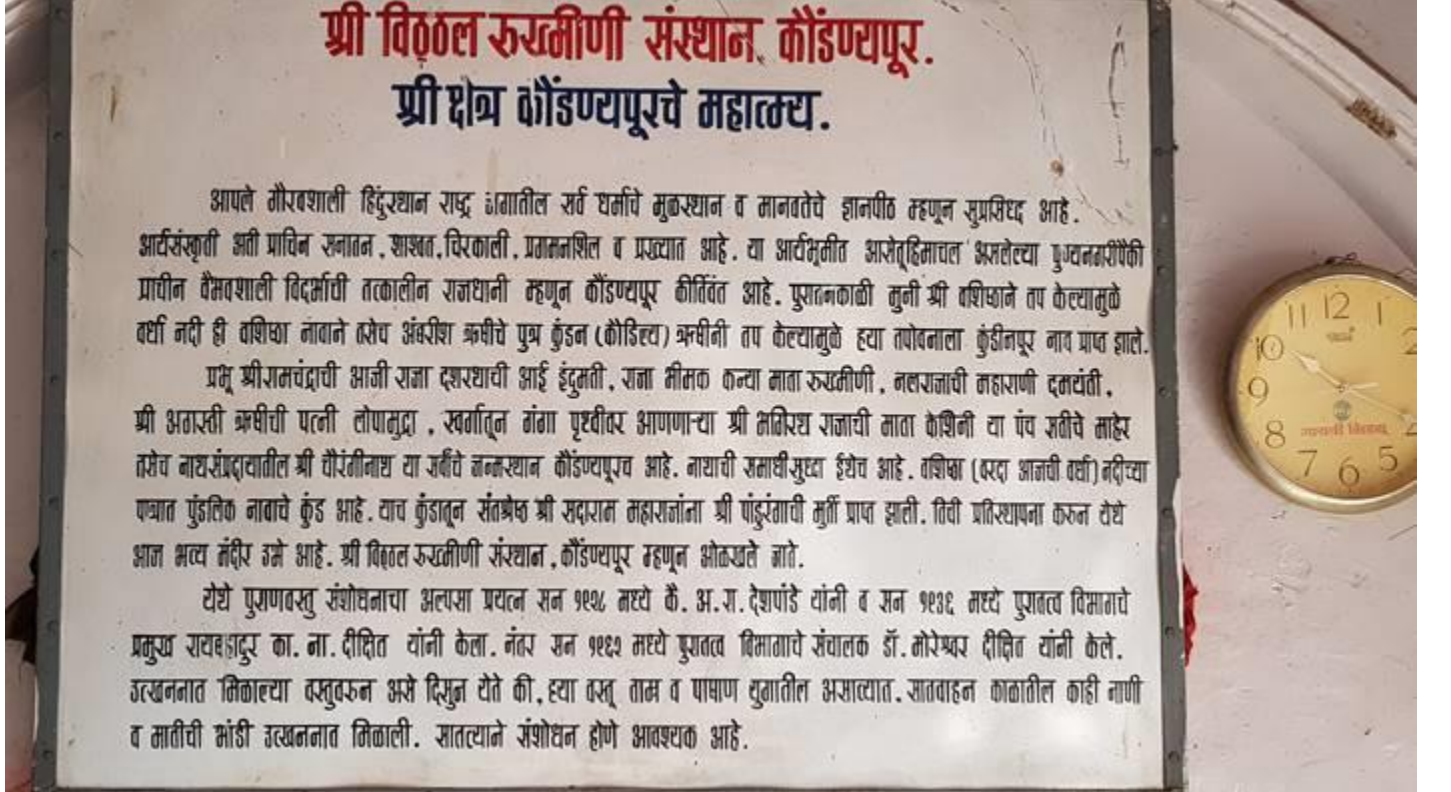
10,000 years old Sri Vishnu deity



10,000 years old Sri Vishnu deity



Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple



Sri Vitthala Rukmini temple



Sant Tukaram - a great devotee of Lord Krishna



Sri Eknath Ji - a great devotee of Lord Krishna

ISKCON Kaundinyapur

At Kaundinyapur there is very beautiful ISKCON Temple. It is located in serene surroundings on a small hillock, at a walking distance from the main Rukmini temple. Sri Giriraj Govardhana are the presiding deities. Temple has Goshala and a nice Guesthouse.

Unique feature of this Temple is - rare Keli Kadamba trees are there in the temple premises. Keli Kadamba and Tamala trees are the most auspicious. Apart from Vrindavana and Mayapur, they rarely grow. Rare presence of 'Kadamba' tree at this place indicates that the Lotus Feet ('Kadam') of Lord Krishna were there at this very spot, i.e. Lord Krishna came here at this very place.

This temple is developed by the inspiration of ISKCON leader His Holiness Lokanath Swami Maharaj. A small group of devotees live here & take care of the devotional services. Oranges and cotton plantations are grown in abundance in this area.



ISKCON Kaundinyapur



Entrance of ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple



ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple



Sri Giriraj Govardhana are the presiding deities



Beautiful paintings of pastimes of Lord Krishna



Beautiful paintings of pastimes of Lord Krishna



Beautiful paintings of pastimes of Lord Krishna



Beautiful paintings of pastimes of Lord Krishna



ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple



Mother cow



Lord Krishna's beautiful cows at Goshala of ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple



Goshala at ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple



Sri Sri Jagannatha Baladeva Subhadra at ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple



Sri Sri Jagannatha Baladeva Subhadra at ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple

Rare most auspicious Keli Kadamba trees. Rare presence of 'Kadamba' tree at this place indicates that the Lotus Feet ('Kadam') of Lord Krishna were there at this very spot. i.e. Lord Krishna came here at this very place.



Most auspicious Keli Kadamba trees



Most auspicious Keli Kadamba trees



Most auspicious Keli Kadamba trees

यह पवित्र कदंब वृक्ष है। जो आमतौर पर
वृंदावन में या यमुना नदी के तट पर पाया जाता है।

“ जब भगवान द्वारकाधीश
श्रीकृष्ण रुक्मिणी हरण के लिए
कौंडण्यपुर में आए थे, तब उनकी
माला से गिरे हुए पुष्प के कारण
ही यह एकमेव वृक्ष आज यहाँ है ”

प.पू. लोकनाथ स्वामी महाराज

**When Lord Dwarkadisha Sri Krishna came to kidnap Rukmini, then some of the
flowers of His garland fell here.
From those flowers these Keli Kadamba trees sprouted.**

सुचना

- * यह पाँच हजार साल का प्राचीन कदम्ब वृक्ष है।
- * यह भगवान श्रीकृष्ण का चरण स्थान है।
- * जब भगवान रुक्मिणी देवीजी को लेने आये थे तब इस वृक्ष के पास उनकी प्रतीक्षा कर रहे थे।
- * जब रुक्मिणी देवी अंबिका माता की पूजा करके मंदिर से बाहर निकली तब देखा हनुमान चिन्ह से सुशोभीत प्रभुजी के रथ का ध्वजा दिख गया। तब धिरे-धिरे सखीयों के साथ रथ की ओर चली।
- * भगवान श्रीकृष्ण रुक्मिणी को आते हुए देखकर तुरंत जाके उनका हाथ पकड़ कर रथ में बिठा लिया और द्वारका की ओर चल पड़े।
- * यह स्थान अत्यंत पवित्र स्थान है, क्यों की यहाँ भक्त और भगवान का पवित्र प्रेम मिलन स्थान है।
- * यह कदम्ब वृक्ष आध्यात्मिक जगत के कल्पवृक्ष है। जो भक्तों का समस्त प्रकार मनोकामना पुरा करने वाला है।
- * इस पवित्र वृक्ष को माथा लगाकर प्रणाम करें, दोनों भुजाओं से आर्लींगन करें एवं कम से कम ३ बार परिक्रमा करें।
- * इस वृक्ष के निचे बैठकर पुजा-पाठ के साथ जप-तप करें। अन्यथा यहाँ बैठकर व्यर्थ वार्तालाप न करें। एवं भोजन आदि न करें।
- * संपूर्ण ब्रज में ब्रजवासीओं द्वारा दो वृक्ष वंदनीय एवं पूजनीय है, एक कदम्ब वृक्ष जो श्रीकृष्ण का स्वरूप है, दुसरा तमाल वृक्ष जो राधारानी का स्वरूप है।

Most auspicious Keli Kadamba trees



Rukmini Rath



Sri Dwarkadisha Krishna and Rukmini



ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple inauguration



ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple inauguration



Kaundinyapur



ISKCON Kaundinyapur temple

हरे कृष्ण हरे कृष्ण कृष्ण कृष्ण हरे हरे
हरे राम हरे राम राम राम हरे हरे ॥



विशाला प्र. सो. विनिमय एजीक. कार्टन
मो. 9821527175

वसुदेवं सुतं देवं कंस चाणूरमर्दनम्। देवकी परमानन्दं कृष्णं वन्दे जगद्गुरुम्॥
जयति जयति देवो देवकीनन्दनो ऽ सौ जयति जयति कृष्णो वृष्णिवंशप्रदीपः।
जयति जयति मेघश्यामलः कोमलाङ्गो जयति जयति पृथ्वीभारनाशो मुकुन्दः ॥

Lord Krishna



His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu



Lotus flowers at Kaundinyapur



Oranges 🍊 and Cotton grow in abundance near Kaundinyapur and Nagpur



Cotton plantations

Krishna book chapters 52, 43 and 54 describe this pastime in details.

Chapter 52 - Krishna, the Ranacora: www.vedabase.com/en/kb/52

Chapter 53 - Krishna Kidnaps Rukmini: www.vedabase.com/en/kb/53

Chapter 54 - Krishna Defeats All the Princes and Takes Rukmini Home to Dwarka:
<https://www.vedabase.com/en/kb/54>

Iskcon Kaundinyapur Temple Inauguration: <http://www.dandavats.com/?p=14164>

Pune Yatra: <http://www.dandavats.com/?p=53814>

Mayapur TV: <http://Mayapur.tv> / **Vrindavana TV:** <https://vrindavan.tv/>

Holy Pilgrimages: www.Holy-Pilgrimages.com / **Facebook:**
www.facebook.com/HolyPilgrimages

Holy Dham: www.HolyDham.com

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